

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, and 17 have been rejected.

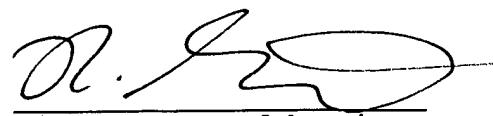
The abstract of the disclosure has been objected to because it is too long. The abstract has been amended to remove several inconsequential words. Please remove the objection to the abstract.

Claims 1, 2, and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in light of United States Patent No. 1,452,873 to Gifford in view of German Patent DE10109626 to Panzer.

The examiner has indicated, however, that claims 3-16 were objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 has been rewritten including substantially the limitations of claims 2 and 3. Claims 2, 3, and 17 have been canceled. Please remove the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 1 and enter the allowance of claims 1, and 4-16.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully solicited. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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